charges for tests, procedures etc. have been rationalized. Charges for over 400 new tests and procedures have been introduced. In respect of another 400 tests, the charges have been increased due to increase in cost of consumables. In the case of over 380 cases, the charges have been left unaltered and in about 40 cases charges have been reduced. The poor and needy patient at AIIMS continue to get the free treatment. The patients admitted in the emergency are given free treatment irrespective their economic status. It has been reported by AIIMS there is no decline in the number of patients after the rationalization of user charges.

Code of conduct for MCI inspectors

2970. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any code of conduct has been laid down by Government and MCI for the conduct and behaviour of various inspectors who visit medical colleges on various duties;

(b) what is the criteria used to select inspectors by the MCI or Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a need to upgrade the level of such inspectors both from their know-how as ell as their understanding of dignity, etc.;

(d) what steps will be taken to obtain feedback reports from all medical colleges on how such inspectors behaved and how they could be rated professionally; and

(e) the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (A) to (e) Inspection of medical institutions by the Medical Council of India is the most important input for grant of permission/recognition to undergraduate/postgraduate courses. The Government is reviewing the entire process of inspection including appointment of permanent and panel of inspectors and bringing in necessary modification with a view to making it more transparent and effective.